

**VIRGINIA  
STANDARDS OF LEARNING ASSESSMENTS**

**Spring 2004 Released Test**

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**GRADE 3  
SCIENCE  
CORE 1**

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**DIRECTIONS**

Read each question carefully and choose the best answer. Then mark the space in the answer booklet for the answer you have chosen.

**SAMPLE**

**When the Earth is seen from outer space, it looks mainly blue. This is because most of the Earth is covered with —**

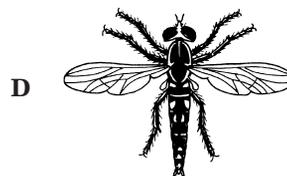
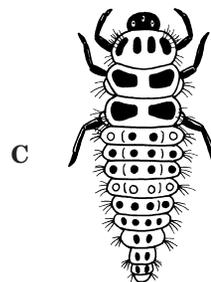
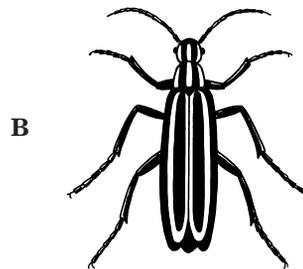
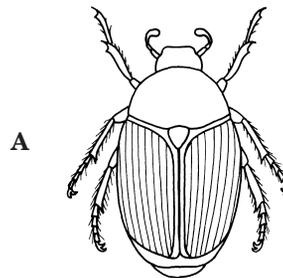
- A ice
- B mountains
- C oceans
- D deserts

1

**Insect Observations**

#1	thin body
#2	small head
#3	two long antennae
#4	two small eyes
#5	six legs
#6	black with white stripes

**Which of these is most like the animal in the data collected above?**



2



**The picture shows a tomato plant. What part of the plant is the tomato?**

- F The root
- G The stem
- H The leaf
- J The fruit

**3 Which of these would probably cause a forest habitat to become a desert?**

- A No rain
- B Flooded rivers
- C High winds
- D Hot summers

**4 Magnets will stick to refrigerator doors because the doors are —**

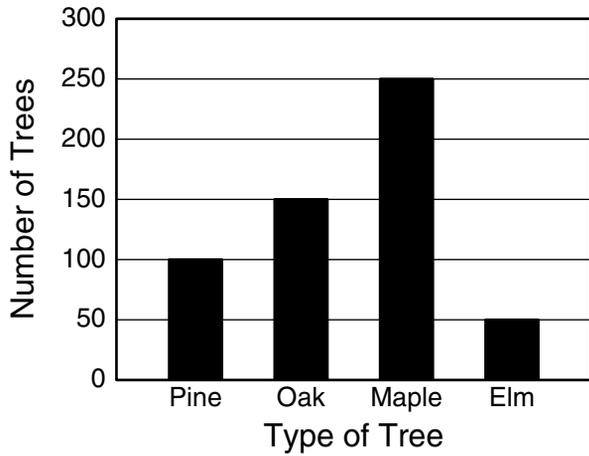
- F painted with plastic
- G made of metal
- H easy to open
- J heavy

**5 How do animals help oak trees?**

- A They crack open the acorns.
- B They eat extra leaves.
- C They carry acorns to different places.
- D They build nests in the tree branches.

6

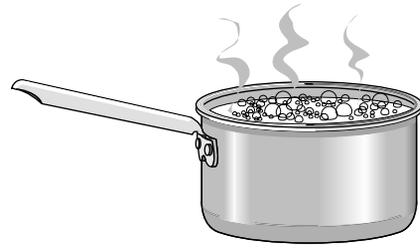
**Trees in a Forest**



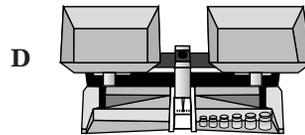
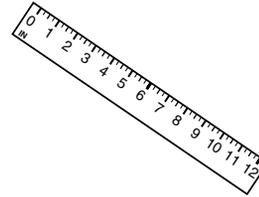
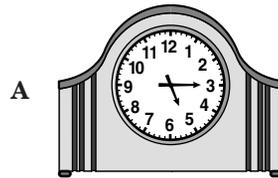
Which type of tree is least common in this forest?

- F Pine
- G Oak
- H Maple
- J Elm

7



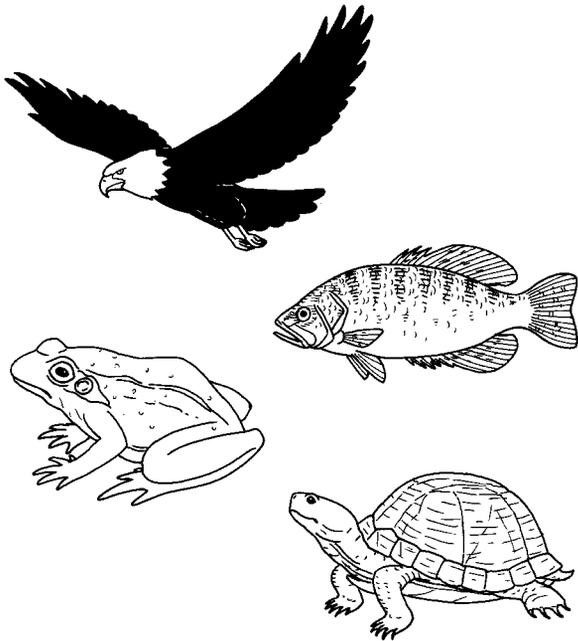
Which instrument should be used to measure how hot the water is in the pot?



8 Snow and sleet are two kinds of —

- F precipitation
- G evaporation
- H condensation
- J temperatures

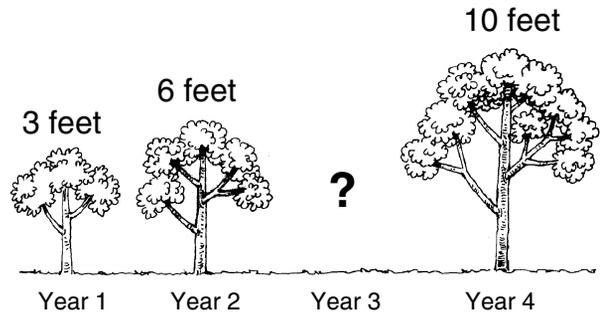
9



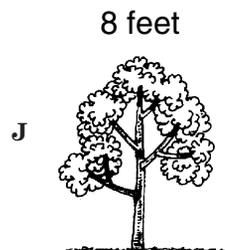
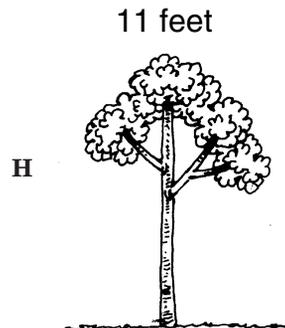
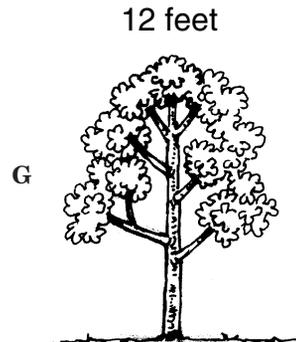
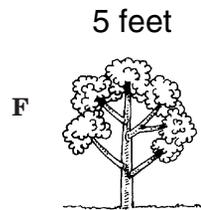
Which statement is true for all of these animals?

- A They all hatch from eggs.
- B They all have the same body covering.
- C They all are mammals.
- D They all live only in water.

10



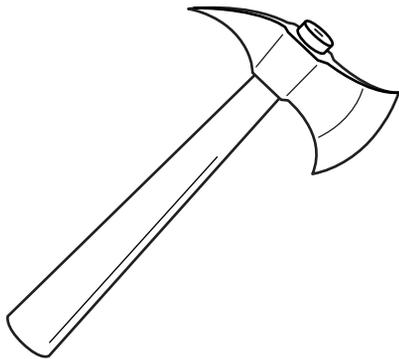
The pictures above were taken each year, but one picture was lost. Which one of the pictures below is probably the missing picture?



11 Which of these will change when a piece of wood is chopped into smaller pieces?

- A The weight of each piece
- B The hardness of each piece
- C The color of each piece
- D The grain of each piece

12



The head of an axe is wide at one end and pointed at the other to help cut or trim trees. The axe head is an example of —

- F a pulley
- G a wheel and axle
- H a wedge
- J an inclined plane

13

Weather : The Five-Day Forecast

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
				
47°F	45°F	36°F	30°F	26°F

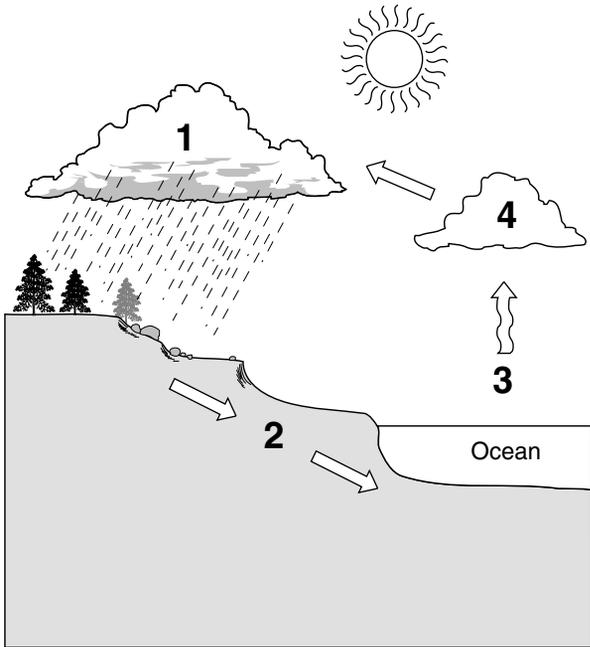
According to the five-day weather forecast —

- A skies will be cloudy all week
- B warmer weather is likely on the weekend
- C the daily temperature will rise
- D snow is most likely on the weekend

14 All rivers flow to oceans or lakes because water —

- F can evaporate
- G flows downhill
- H is clear
- J can freeze

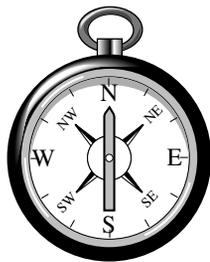
15



The picture shows the water cycle. At which point in the cycle does most evaporation occur?

- A 1
- B 2
- C 3
- D 4

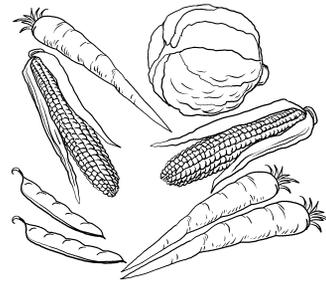
16



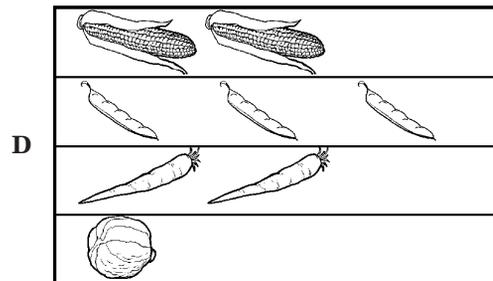
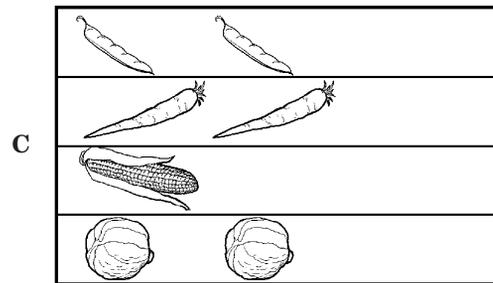
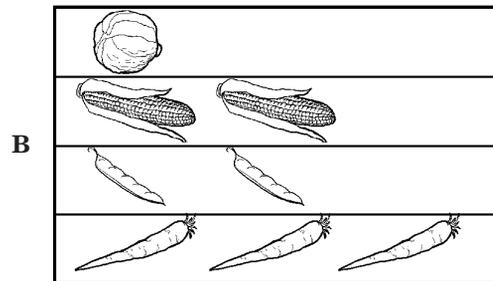
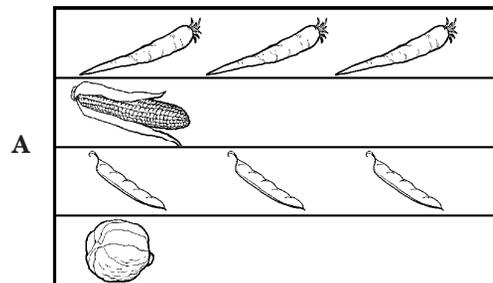
A compass shows directions because the needle —

- F is magnetic
- G senses electricity
- H is made of metal
- J turns clockwise

17



The class picked the vegetables shown above from their garden. Which picture graph below correctly shows the type and number of the vegetables they picked?



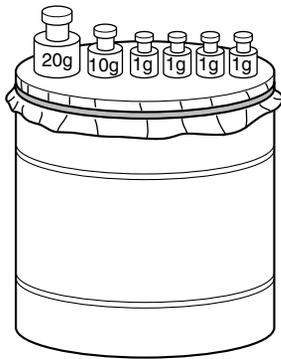
18 Some birds fly south for the winter. Birds know when and where to fly because of —

- F camouflage
- G mimicry
- H instinct
- J hibernation

19 Which of these best shows circular motion?

- A A person swinging on a swing
- B A tennis ball bouncing
- C A baseball hit by a bat
- D A spinning wheel on a bike

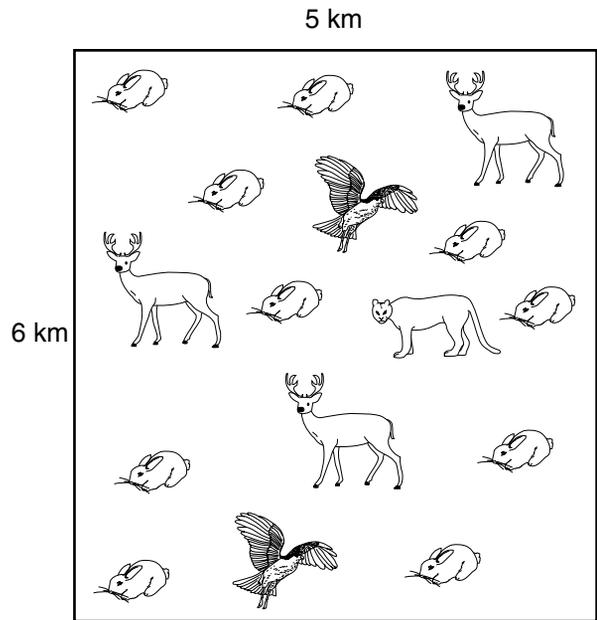
20



The picture shows a test to find the strength of some paper towels. It shows that this paper towel can hold how many grams?

- F 24 g
- G 34 g
- H 44 g
- J 70 g

21



The picture shows a large area and the animals that live there. Which is the largest population in this area?

- A The mountain lion
- B The deer
- C The rabbit
- D The hawk

22 Which kind of precipitation can be seen on a July day in Virginia?

- F Rain
- G Snow
- H Ice
- J Sleet

- 23 Which of these changes the most as a balloon is being blown up?**
- A The temperature of the air outside of the balloon
  - B The volume of air in the balloon
  - C The kind of material that makes up the balloon
  - D The mass of the material that makes up the balloon

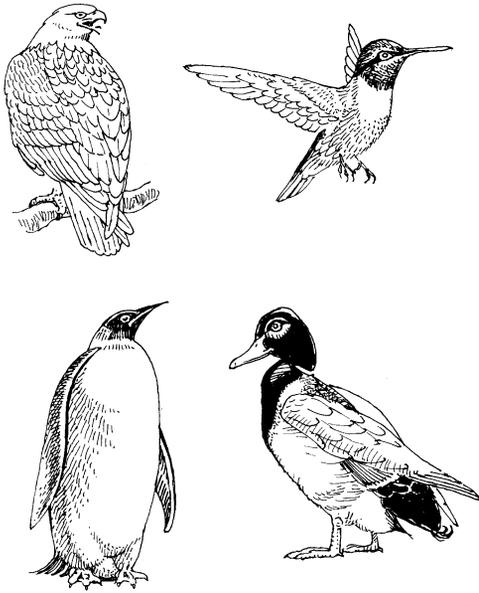
- 24 Which is a life need of a third-grade child?**
- F Food
  - G Friends
  - H Television
  - J Homework

- 25 Water and wind can break rock into small pieces. What happens to these small pieces when they break away?**
- A Plants use them for energy.
  - B They become part of the soil.
  - C They become food for animals.
  - D They turn into earthworms.

- 26 Turning off lights when you leave a room is a way to —**
- F recycle materials
  - G save energy
  - H reuse natural resources
  - J reduce trash

- 27 Why are decomposers important in any environment?**
- A They make food using sunlight.
  - B They make places for animals to live.
  - C They help to break down dead organisms.
  - D They are a big part of the water cycle.

28



**These animals can be grouped together because they all —**

- F live in the water
- G have webbed feet
- H have feathers
- J live in a cold place

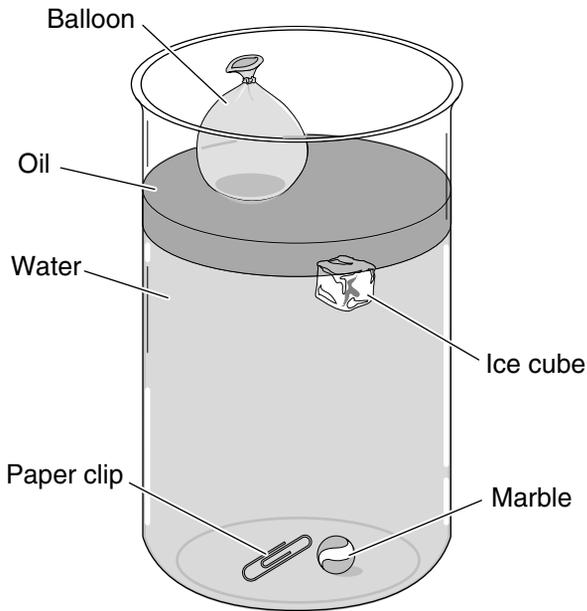
29



**These three plants have all been growing on the same sunny windowsill for 6 weeks. What may have caused the difference in appearance?**

- A Different amounts of light
- B Temperature differences
- C Different-sized pots
- D Different amounts of water

30



**Which of these is floating on water but sinking in oil?**

- F The paper clip
- G The marble
- H The ice cube
- J The balloon

31

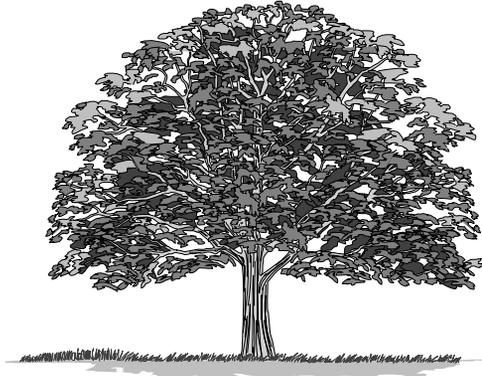


**What kind of weather condition probably created these forms in the desert?**

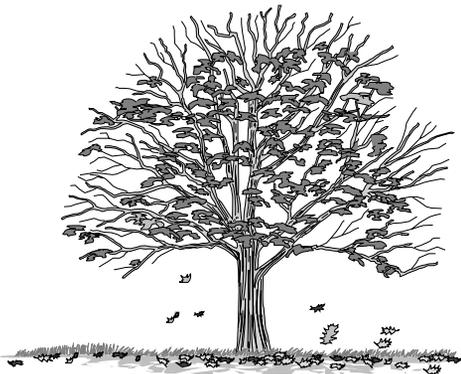
- A Snow
- B Rain
- C Sleet
- D Wind

**32 Which of the following ways to travel pollutes the air the least?**

- F Riding a bike
- G Riding in a car
- H Riding in an airplane
- J Riding the bus



Picture 1



Picture 2

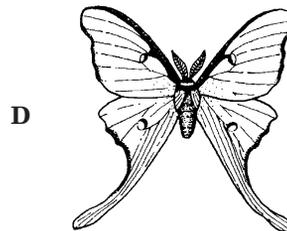
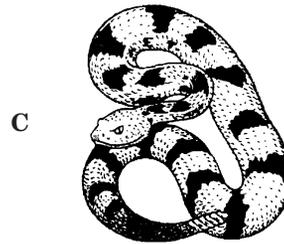
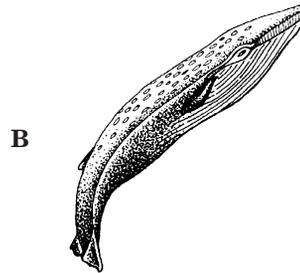
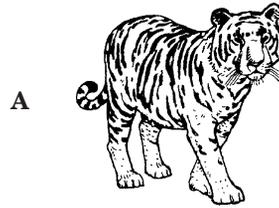
These pictures show the seasons changing from —

- A spring to summer
- B summer to fall
- C fall to winter
- D winter to spring

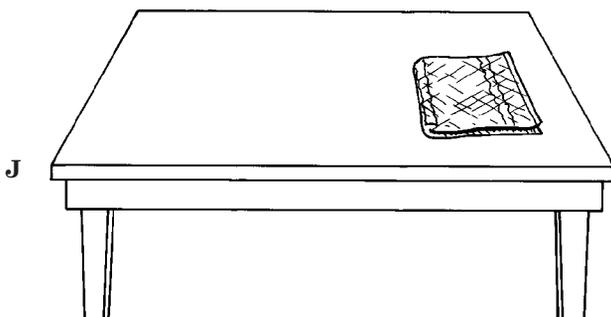
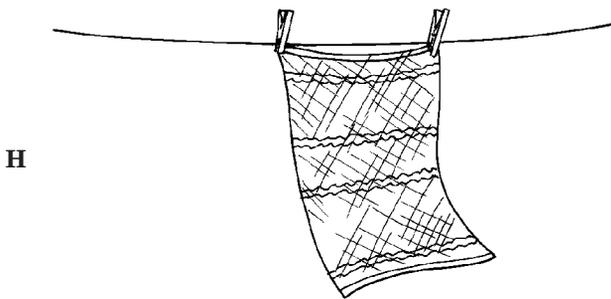
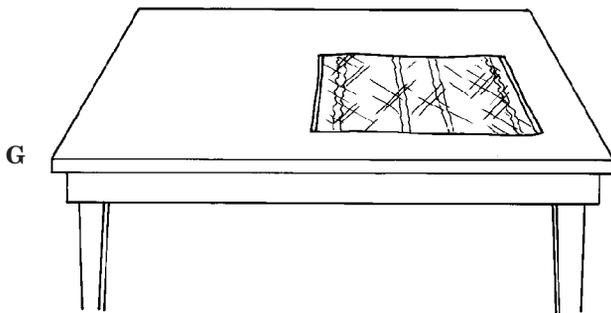
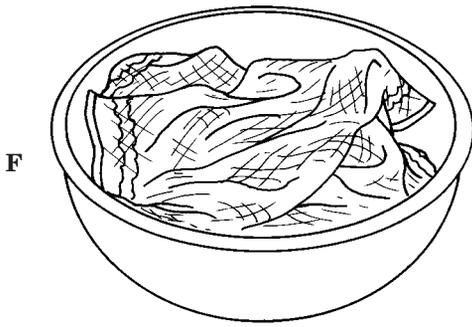
34 Which of these is not a natural resource?

- F Plastic
- G Water
- H Forests
- J Soil

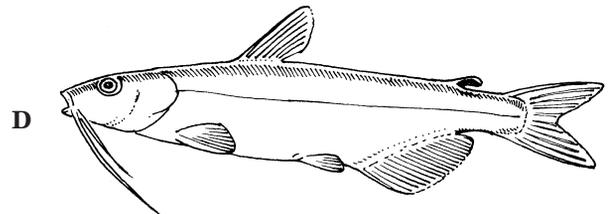
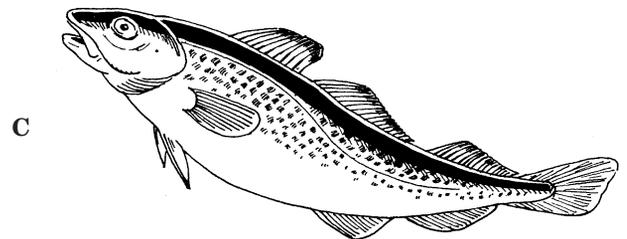
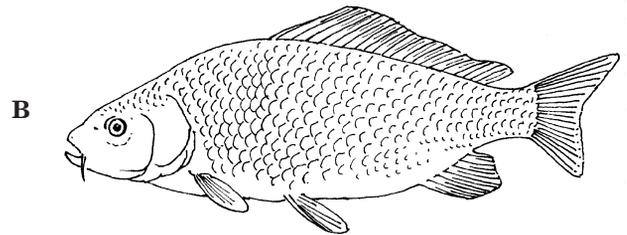
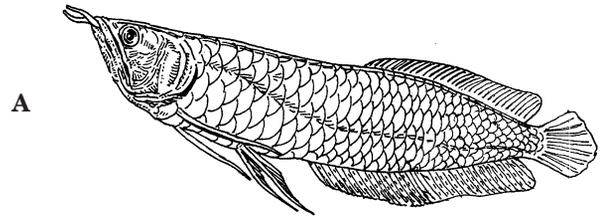
35 As a baby, which animal looks most different from its parent?



36 Which cloth will most likely dry first?



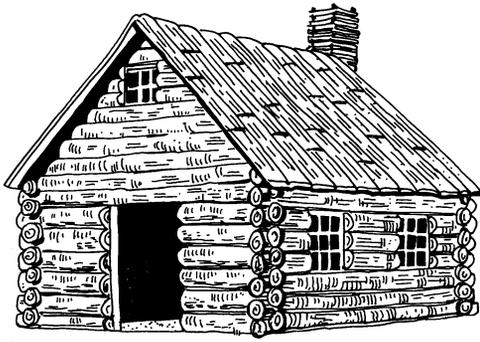
37 Catfish have whisker-like parts around their mouths but do not have scales on their bodies. Which of these is a catfish?



38 Which of these can move a nail lying on a table without touching the nail?

- F A magnet
- G A string
- H A wire
- J A ruler

39



**Which type of natural resource area had to be readily available for settlers to build this type of home?**

- A Deserts
- B Forests
- C Grasslands
- D Ocean beaches

40



**The picture shows a glass of hot water. There are water drops on the inside edge of the glass. Where did the water come from?**

- F It leaked through the glass.
- G It was sweat from a person.
- H The glass was tipped over by someone.
- J It condensed from the rising steam.

## Answer Key

Test Sequence	Correct Answer	Reporting Category	Reporting Category Description
1	B	015	Scientific Investigation
2	J	017	Life Processes and Living Systems
3	A	017	Life Processes and Living Systems
4	G	016	Force, Motion, Energy, and Matter
5	C	017	Life Processes and Living Systems
6	J	015	Scientific Investigation
7	C	015	Scientific Investigation
8	F	018	Earth/Space Systems and Cycles
9	A	017	Life Processes and Living Systems
10	J	015	Scientific Investigation
11	A	016	Force, Motion, Energy, and Matter
12	H	016	Force, Motion, Energy, and Matter
13	D	018	Earth/Space Systems and Cycles
14	G	016	Force, Motion, Energy, and Matter
15	C	018	Earth/Space Systems and Cycles
16	F	016	Force, Motion, Energy, and Matter
17	B	015	Scientific Investigation
18	H	017	Life Processes and Living Systems
19	D	016	Force, Motion, Energy, and Matter
20	G	015	Scientific Investigation
21	C	017	Life Processes and Living Systems
22	F	018	Earth/Space Systems and Cycles
23	B	016	Force, Motion, Energy, and Matter
24	F	017	Life Processes and Living Systems
25	B	018	Earth/Space Systems and Cycles
26	G	018	Earth/Space Systems and Cycles
27	C	017	Life Processes and Living Systems
28	H	015	Scientific Investigation
29	D	015	Scientific Investigation
30	H	016	Force, Motion, Energy, and Matter
31	D	018	Earth/Space Systems and Cycles
32	F	018	Earth/Space Systems and Cycles
33	B	018	Earth/Space Systems and Cycles
34	F	018	Earth/Space Systems and Cycles
35	D	017	Life Processes and Living Systems
36	H	015	Scientific Investigation
37	D	015	Scientific Investigation
38	F	016	Force, Motion, Energy, and Matter
39	B	017	Life Processes and Living Systems
40	J	016	Force, Motion, Energy, and Matter